



STATE OF MAINE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
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AUGUSTA, MAINE
04333-0001

Paul R. LePage
GOVERNOR

21 June 2013

The 126th Legislature of the State of Maine
State House
Augusta, ME

Dear Honorable Members of the 126th Legislature:

Under the authority vested in me by Article IV, Part Third, Section 2 of the Constitution of the State of Maine, I am hereby vetoing LD 1023, "An Act To Provide Transparency in Fund-raising by and Lobbying of a Governor-elect."

When I was elected Governor, I released the names of all donors to my transition team. It was the right thing to do – I did not need a law to tell me that. However, when the Maine people decide to elect a Governor, they express their confidence in that individual's integrity and decision-making. Passing laws to immediately question that integrity disrespects the decision made at the ballot box, regardless of the political party of the Governor-elect.

Additionally, private funding is necessary during the two months leading up to the inauguration. Building an administration from scratch requires office space, technology, staff, and other costs. Taxpayers provide only \$5,000 for those two months and oftentimes additional money is needed. While this bill may never have any impact on me, it goes a step too far. When Maine voters speak at the ballot box, their newly-elected officials should be trusted to do the right thing.

For these reasons, I return LD 1023 unsigned and vetoed. I strongly urge the Legislature to sustain it.

Sincerely,

Paul R. LePage
Governor



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